

Express Mail No.: EV 577106735 US

Docket No.: 801948-0008

1AP20 Rec'0, FULTO 26 MAY 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s)

: George Kaladelfos

Serial No.

Not yet assigned. Nat'l Phase of PCT/AU2004/001674

Int'l Filing Date

: 26 November 2004

Title

LIGATURE CARRIER

Group/Art Unit : Not yet assigned

Examiner

: Not yet assigned Not yet assigned

Confirmation No. Atty. Docket No.

801948-0008

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the aboveidentified patent application. Copies of the cited foreign patents documents are enclosed. Submission of these references is not an admission that the references constitute prior art.

Applicant respectfully requests that these references be made of record in the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the application.

Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" (37 C.F.R. 1.10) Express Mail Label No.: <u>EV 577106735 US</u> Date of Deposit: 26 May 2006 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Micole Bickham Signature: Printed Name: <u>Vicole Bickham</u>

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

10/500/56

Express Mail No.: EV 577106735 US -

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the

filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due.

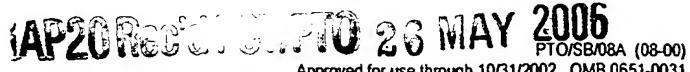
Respectfully submitted,

James Hmarch, &. James H. Marsh, Jr.

Registration No. 24,533 STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP

1201 Walnut, Suite 2900 Kansas City MO 64106-2150

Telephone: (816) 842-8600 Facsimile: (816) 691-3495



Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

of

U.S. Patent D	ocument			
Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
5,871,488		Tovey et al.	02-16-1999	
2003/0233107	A1	Gellman et al.	12-18-2003	
4,347,450		Colligan	08-31-1982	
4,748,872		Brown	06-07-1988	
5,372,420		Van Deursen et al.	12-13-1994	
6,050,989		Fox et al.	04-18-2000	
	5,871,488 2003/0233107 4,347,450 4,748,872 5,372,420	5,871,488 2003/0233107 A1 4,347,450 4,748,872 5,372,420	5,871,488 Tovey et al. 2003/0233107 A1 Gellman et al. 4,347,450 Colligan 4,748,872 Brown 5,372,420 Van Deursen et al.	5,871,488 Tovey et al. 02-16-1999 2003/0233107 A1 Gellman et al. 12-18-2003 4,347,450 Colligan 08-31-1982 4,748,872 Brown 06-07-1988 5,372,420 Van Deursen et al. 12-13-1994

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

				FORE	GN PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant	
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Applicant of Cited Document	MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T 6
		wo	96/09796	A2	Laurus Medical Corporation	04-04-1996		
		wo	96/39948	A1	Smith & Nephew Ednoscopy,Inc.	12-19-1996		
		WO	98/43545	A1	Smith & Nephew, Inc.	10-08-1998		
		EP	0 567 130	A1	United States Surgical Corporation	10-27-1993		
		JP	08117239	A	Terumo Corp.	05-14-1996		
			and English abstract thereof					

			TENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION	
xaminer nitials*	Cite No.1	nor (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the mal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published		
		None.		
Examin Signatu			Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.